

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-8 (Canceled).

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): A vibration-absorbing tube comprising:
a bellows composed of a thin metal and having troughs and ridges;
a fiber braid reinforcement covering the bellows and having a braided angle of 30° to 50°; and
a buffer material covering the outer face of the bellows,
wherein the buffer material covers the outer face from the bottom of the troughs to a height that is 0.5 to 2.0 times the height of ridges, wherein the cross section of the bellows has a sequence of one of U-shapes and Ω-shapes Ω-shapes[.], and
wherein the buffer material is a rubber composition comprising at least one rubber selected from the group consisting of polyisobutylene, acrylic rubbers, hydrogenated nitrile rubbers, epichlorohydrin rubbers, butyl rubbers, chlorosulfonated polyethylene rubbers, and chlorinated polyethylene rubbers.

Claim 10 (Previously Presented): The vibration-absorbing tube according to claim 9, wherein gaps in the fiber braid reinforcement are impregnated with a curable resin or rubber composition.

Claim 11 (Previously Presented): The vibration-absorbing tube according to claim 10, wherein the resin composition comprises at least one resin selected from the group consisting of urea resins, melamine resins, phenol resins, epoxy resins, vinyl acetate resins,

cyanoacrylate resins, polyurethane resins, maleic acid resins, isocyanate resins, and acrylic resins.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): The vibration-absorbing tube according to claim 10, wherein the rubber composition for the fiber braid reinforcement comprises at least one rubber selected from the group consisting of chlorinated rubbers, acrylic rubbers, hydrogenated nitrile rubbers, epichlorohydrin rubbers, butyl rubbers, chlorosulfonated polyethylene rubbers, and chlorinated polyethylene rubbers.

Claim 13 (Previously Presented): The vibration-absorbing tube according to claim 9 further comprising at least one additional fiber braid reinforcement at the outside of the fiber braid reinforcement.

Claim 14 (Previously Presented): The vibration-absorbing tube according to claim 9, wherein the fibers constituting the fiber braid reinforcement and the additional fiber braid reinforcement are selected from the group consisting of acrylic fibers, novoloid fibers, carbon fibers, polyester fibers, vinylon fibers, silk, nylon fibers, polyamide fibers, polyparaphenylene benzobisoxazole fibers, and aramid fibers.

Claims 15-20 (Canceled).

Claim 21 (Previously Presented): The vibration-absorbing tube according to claim 9, wherein the vibration-absorbing tube is partially disposed in piping for a carbon dioxide refrigerant system, hydrogen gas, liquefied petroleum gas, chlorofluorocarbon refrigerant, or liquefied natural gas.

Claim 22 (Previously Presented): The vibration-absorbing tube according to claim 14, wherein the vibration-absorbing tube is partially disposed in piping for a carbon dioxide refrigerant system, hydrogen gas, liquefied petroleum gas, chlorofluorocarbon refrigerant, or liquefied natural gas.

Claims 23-24 (Canceled).

Claim 25 (Currently Amended): The vibration-absorbing tube according to claim [[17]] 10, wherein the vibration-absorbing tube is partially disposed in piping for a carbon dioxide refrigerant system, hydrogen gas, liquefied petroleum gas, chlorofluorocarbon refrigerant, or liquefied natural gas.

Claim 26 (Currently Amended): The vibration-absorbing tube according to claim [[18]] 11, wherein the vibration-absorbing tube is partially disposed in piping for a carbon dioxide refrigerant system, hydrogen gas, liquefied petroleum gas, chlorofluorocarbon refrigerant, or liquefied natural gas.

Claim 27 (Currently Amended): The vibration-absorbing tube according to claim [[19]] 12, wherein the vibration-absorbing tube is partially disposed in piping for a carbon dioxide refrigerant system, hydrogen gas, liquefied petroleum gas, chlorofluorocarbon refrigerant, or liquefied natural gas.

Claim 28 (Currently Amended): The vibration-absorbing tube according to claim [[20]] 13, wherein the vibration-absorbing tube is partially disposed in piping for a carbon

dioxide refrigerant system, hydrogen gas, liquefied petroleum gas, chlorofluorocarbon refrigerant, or liquefied natural gas.